

Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

One such crime occurred on April 13, 2001, in San Antonio, TX. A 39-year-old man was attacked in a park because he was thought to be homosexual. After stopping to examine some rocks, the victim was approached by a man with a knife who held him in a bear-hug before stabbing him in the chest. The attacker used anti-gay slurs as he attacked his victim.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RETIREMENT OF JUDGE BARZ

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a good friend of mine, Judge Diane Barz, who is retiring from her successful career as a Yellowstone County District Court Judge.

Judge Barz is a remarkable woman who has enjoyed a distinguished and wonderful career as a member of the Montana Bar. Judge Barz' career is notably one of "firsts." She was the only woman in her University of Montana Law Class of 1968, was the first female law clerk to the Montana Supreme Court, started the first "female" law firm with her colleague Doris Poplar in 1973, was the first woman district court judge, and youngest, and the first female attorney appointed to the bench of the Montana Supreme Court.

Judge Barz has not only been an exemplary attorney and member of the bench, she has been a role model for women and champion for children. Anyone who has worked with Judge Barz knows that what ever she does, she does it with a leading role. Judge Barz has been instrumental in the development of your court in Montana as we know it today. She doesn't just sit back—she gets the job done! As a member of the bench, she has been gentle and compassionate with children and families when the circumstances required it, but she could be as tough as nails when justice demanded it. Most importantly, Judge Barz always aspired to do what was right for the children and families of Montana. We have all been well served by her.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH E. LETA

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Joseph E. Leta, whose endless enthusiasm and energy promoted many of Colorado's sportsmen's organizations. Mr. Leta, who passed away on January 14, 2004, was a cham-

pion of wildlife and conservation programs. Joe was a lifetime member of numerous sporting organizations which included in Safari Club International, SCIF Sables, Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Foundation, The Mule Deer Foundation, The Elk Foundation, The Alaskan and Canadian Outfitters Association, The Wild Turkey Federation, and The National Rifle Association.

He had a particular passion for Safari Club International and served as President of the SCI Denver Chapter until September 2003. Concurrently and subsequent to his tenure as Chapter President, he was also very active at the National level for SCIF by serving on the Ethics Committee, The Conservation Committee, The Guides and Outfitters Committee, Director of SCIF Nominating Committee, Governmental Affairs Committee, Convention Committee, Humanitarian Committee, and as a Director at Large.

In recognition of Joe's years of dedicated service, the Safari Club International will posthumously present him with the President's Award at SCI's 32nd Annual Hunters' Convention in Reno, NV in January 2004.

As president of the SCI Denver Chapter, he inaugurated the establishment of the SCI Denver Sables, which is a club venue for sports women and men dedicated to preserving our hunting heritage through education. Joe recently proposed that the SCI Denver Chapter establish a scholarship fund for needy junior and senior college students who major in wildlife and conservation management. As a tribute to Joe, the Board of Directors approved the proposal and named the fund The SCIF Sables Joe Leta Hunting Heritage Scholarship Fund.

During Joe's tenure as SCI Denver Chapter President, he presided over such club accomplishments as promoting the Sportsmen Against Hunger Program, which distributed over 3,000 pounds of fresh salmon to Colorado's various humanitarian food banks. He also presided over several revenue generating programs for the benefit of the Colorado Division of Wildlife by promoting big game hunting licenses. Numerous wildlife students at Colorado State University have received educational grants from the SCI Denver Chapter under Joe's direction.

Joe was even instrumental in helping the Wyoming Game and Fish Department by directing SCI funds to construct an anti-poaching cabin in one of Wyoming's more remote regions where unlawful hunting was a problem. Joe was also a champion of the newly formed Colorado Sportsman's Caucus which is a sportsman's support group that interfaces with members of the Colorado Legislature on hunting, fishing and various other outdoor and wildlife issues.

After graduating from Youngstown University and completing a tour of duty in the U.S. Air Force as an x-ray technician, Joe joined Picker International as a sales representative for

their Medical Imaging Equipment Division. He retired from Picker after 30 years of service as a regional sales manager.

Joe Leta was born July 16, 1931 in New Castle, PA as the only child of Joseph and Edith Leta. His wife of 49 years, Shirley and their three children, Joseph, Jr., Christopher, Lisa (Charles) Stanley, and one grandchild, Lacy, survive him.

Joe and Shirley resided in Evergreen, CO for the past 26 years and they are members of Christ the King Catholic Church and the Hiwan Golf Club in Evergreen, Colorado.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3724. An act to amend section 220 of the National Housing Act to make a technical correction to restore allowable increases in the maximum mortgage limits for FHA-insured mortgages for multifamily housing projects to cover increased costs of installing a solar energy system or residential energy conservation measures.

H.J. Res. 84. Joint resolution recognizing the 93d birthday of Ronald Reagan.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 354. Concurrent resolution to correct technical errors in the enrollment of the bill S. 610.

The message further announced that the House agree to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2264) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 to carry out the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) program, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2264. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 to carry out the Congo Basin Forest Partnership program, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3724. An act to amend section 220 of the National Housing Act to make a technical correction to restore allowable increases in the maximum mortgage limits for FHA-insured mortgages for multifamily housing projects to cover increased costs of installing a solar energy system or residential energy conservation measures; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

The following bill was read, and referred as indicated: